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E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/30/2034

TAGS: [PINR](#) [KZ](#)

SUBJECT: (U) KUDOS FOR BIOGRAPHIC REPORTING JANUARY -  
MARCH 2009

REF: A. ASTANA 000094  
[1](#)B. ASTANA 000146  
[1](#)C. ASTANA 000150  
[1](#)D. ASTANA 000193  
[1](#)E. ASTANA 000264  
[1](#)F. ASTANA 000308  
[1](#)G. ASTANA 000352  
[1](#)H. ASTANA 000372  
[1](#)I. ASTANA 000430  
[1](#)J. ASTANA 000435

Classified By: SUZANNE MCCORMICK, DIR., INR/OPS. REASON: 1.4(C).

[1](#)1. (C) INR/B CONTINUES TO BE AMAZED AND PLEASED WITH THE QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF BIOGRAPHIC REPORTING PRODUCED BY POST. INR/B RELIES HEAVILY ON POST,S REPORTING IN PULLING TOGETHER BIOGRAPHIC REPORTS ON KAZAKHSTANI OFFICIALS FOR USE BY US POLICYMAKERS. REFS A-J AMOUNT TO MERELY A SAMPLE OF POST,S OUTSTANDING REPORTING ON KAZAKHSTANI OFFICIALS.

[1](#)A. (S) INR/B APPRECIATED THE LANGUAGE ON PRESIDENT NAZARBAYEV,S APPEARANCE AND DEMEANOR ) &NAZARBAYEV LOOKED AS FIT AS EVER AND WAS VERY WELL-BRIEFED, DISCUSSING DETAILS OF THE U.S.-KAZAKHSTAN MILITARY RELATIONSHIP WITHOUT NOTES8 -- IN REF A (&KAZAKHSTAN: CENTCOM CDR PETRAEUS MEETS PRESIDENT NAZARBAYEV, JANUARY 148). THE INFORMATION THAT NAZARBAYEV &SEES HIMSELF AS AN INTERNATIONAL STATESMAN8 TRACKS WELL WITH OTHER REPORTING ON THE KAZAKHSTANI PRESIDENT.

[1](#)B. (SBU) REF B (&KAZAKHSTAN: MINISTER OF FINANCE PROMISES ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING LAW IN FIRST QUARTER OF 20098) PROVIDED A HELPFUL READOUT ON MINISTER ZHAMISHEV AS &PROFESSIONAL, POLITE, AND EXTREMELY WELL-PREPARED FOR THE MEETING.8

[1](#)C. (SBU) SIMILARLY, REF C (&KAZAKHSTAN: MINISTER OF ECONOMY SUPPORTS CLOSER COOPERATION WITH U.S. GOVERNMENT8) INCLUDED DETAILED INFORMATION ON MINISTER SULTANOV,S PERSONALITY, APPEARANCE, EDUCATION, CAREER BACKGROUND, AND ENGLISH-LANGUAGE CAPABILITY.

[1](#)D. (SBU) THE PROFILE OF IMANGALI TASMA GAMBETOV IN REF D (&KAZAKHSTAN: ASTANA MAYOR TASMA GAMBETOV DETAILS PLANS FOR CITY, ARGUES KAZAKHSTAN HAS COME A LONG WAY8) MESSES WELL WITH INR/B,S TAKE ON THE MAYOR.

[1](#)E. (C) REF E (&KAZAKHSTAN: MFA OFFICIAL SAYS FM TAZHIN WILL BE REPLACED IN THE COMING MONTHS8) NOT ONLY PROVIDED INTERESTING RUMORS ON TAZHIN,S NEXT ASSIGNMENT, BUT ALSO A FASCINATING LOOK AT MFA OFFICIAL TALGAT KALIYEV.

[1](#)F. (SBU) INR/B APPRECIATED THE BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON ZAGIPA BALIYEVA, INCLUDING HER PASSION FOR PARACHUTE JUMPING, IN REF F (&KAZAKHSTAN: JUSTICE MINISTER BALIYEVA EXPRESSES APPRECIATION FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE8).

[1](#)G. (SBU) REF G (&KAZAKHSTAN: KMG,S IDENOV ENTERTAINS, REVEALS8) OFFERED OUTSTANDING LANGUAGE ON IDENOV,S INTERPERSONAL STYLE, INCLUDING HIS &CHARACTERISTIC CANDOR AND DRAMATIC FLAIR.8

¶H. (C) LIKE POST, INR/B FOUND YERTYSBAYEV,S OVERVIEW OF KAZAKHSTANI POLITICS IN REF H (&KAZAKHSTAN: PRESIDENT ADVISOR YERTYSBAYEV SUPPORTS EARLY ELECTIONS, DIALOGUE WITH OPPOSITION8) &FRANK AND FREE-WHEELING.8 INR/B ESPECIALLY VALUED YERTYSBAYEV,S TAKE ON HOW NAZARBAYEV,S SOVIET-ERA EXPERIENCE HAD SHAPED HIM AS A LEADER.

¶I. (SBU) INR/B GREATLY APPRECIATED THE BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON INFLUENTIAL OILMEN YERMEK MARABAYEV AND ZHAKYP MARABAYEV AND THEIR FATHER NASIBKALI MARABAYEV IN REF I (&KAZAKHSTAN: THE HIGH-FLYING MARABAYEV BROTHERS ARE A FORCE IN THE ENERGY INDUSTRY8).

¶J. (C) REF J (&KAZAKHSTAN: DFM ZHIGALOV SAYS KAZAKHSTAN WOULD WELCOME POTUS VISIT, EXPRESSES CONCERNS ABOUT WTO TALKS8) PROVIDED EXCELLENT BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON NEW DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER KONSTANTIN ZHIGALOV, INCLUDING HIS ENGLISH-LANGUAGE CAPABILITY AND HIS RUSSIAN ETHNICITY.

¶2. (SBU) THANKS AGAIN. INR/B LOOKS FORWARD TO ADDITIONAL REPORTING ON KAZAKHSTANI OFFICIALS FROM POST.  
CLINTON